

# What we know about the Johnson & Johnson COVID-19 VACCINE

The Johnson & Johnson (J & J) vaccine received FDA approval for emergency use; the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will continue to watch for and report harmful side effects. Based on current supply, a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advisory committee created recommendations on who should get the vaccine.

Below is what we currently know about the J & J vaccine:

- Based on the research and data from clinical trials, the vaccine is about 72% effective in preventing mild and moderate COVID-19 infections and 85% effective at preventing severe disease in the United States. It was found 100 % effective in preventing COVID-19 hospitalization and deaths.
- The vaccine is also effective against the new variants. Researchers collected clinical trial data in multiple countries where the new variants are in circulation.
- The vaccine works using a harmless version of a virus similar to the common cold. The virus, a type of adenovirus, delivers the coronavirus's genetic material into cells. The body received instructions on how to make the spike protein found on the coronavirus's surface.
- The J & J COVID-19 vaccine starts to provide some protection 14 days after receiving the shot. A person has full protection about 28 days after the shot.
- Approved for use in people 18 years and older. More research is needed to determine if it is safe and effective for younger people.
- Pregnant and breastfeeding women should discuss their options with their health care provider.
- CDC recommends everyone gets vaccinated even if they have had a previous COVID-19 infection. The vaccine is free for those who want to get it.
- Everyone who receives the vaccine will get a vaccination card showing which vaccine and lot number they received.
- The vaccine is a single dose injected into the arm muscle. After getting the vaccine, general side effects might include fatigue, headache, muscle aches and arm pain. These side effects show that the vaccine is working. The vaccine will rarely cause a severe allergic reaction.

Source:

FDA. FDA Briefing Document. Vaccines and Related Biological Products Advisory Committee Meeting February 26, 2021  
[Johnson & Johnson. Johnson & Johnson Announces Single-Shot Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine Candidate Met Primary Endpoints in Interim Analysis of Its Phase 3 ENSEMBLE Trial](#)